PRIVACY CZAR SLAMS FEDERAL WATCHDOG, PG4

Celebrity Buzz

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Comment pg 10

Levi strip 'teases' in photo shoot pg 22

Sullivan on 'Stephen the Stud'

$3.3M will nab a bite at area's vampire pad

REALTY Twi-hards who happen to have a cool $3.3 million to spare could snatch a pricey piece of Vancouver-based Twilight memorabilia — the Cullen House.

The ultra-modern on-screen forest dwelling, belonging to Edward Cullen and his family in the second and third instalments of the tween vampire series, is up for sale.

Now that filming for the third Twilight movie, Eclipse, has wrapped up, the three-storey, five-bedroom Arthur Erickson pad is no longer needed.

It's on the market for $3,298,000. **METRO VANCOUVER**

News on the Move

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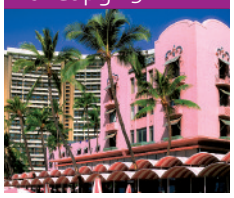
Travel pg 19



Waikiki's renaissance

Entertainment pg 20

Wes Anderson tries Dahl touch

On the web
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KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Proud syrup sucker and City of Richmond spokesperson Ted Townsend, at the Richmond Oval, dons one of the pink toques he sent to comic Stephen Colbert yesterday. The satirist is worried Canadians are being unfair to U.S. speedskaters during practices at the venue.

Richmond syrup suckers invite Colbert to Games

Satirist sent offer to monitor treatment of U.S. speedskaters

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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The City of Richmond wants late-night talk show comic Stephen Colbert to come here and call us "syrup-sucking Canadian icehole" to our faces.

Yesterday, city spokesperson Ted Townsend sent the right-wing satirist a letter inviting him to the Richmond Oval during the 2010 Games.

The tongue-in-cheek letter was sent in response to comments Colbert made recently on The Colbert Report about the U.S. speedskating team being denied ice time at the Oval — something VANOC and the venue deny.

"It takes a lot to upset us," Townsend said in his letter. "After all, the combination of the languid smell of beaver musk and the freezing temperatures generally make us a docile people."

Townsend reminded Colbert that Canadians have always "welcomed our friends from south of the border with open arms (well, except in 1812)."

"So … we are inviting you to find yourself some sled dogs and venture forth to our great frozen wasteland to be our guest at the 2010 Games."

Townsend told Metro Vancouver that he wanted to respond to Colbert in good humour and correct a bit of "misinformation" regarding accusations that international skaters weren't getting their fair share of ice time.

"It's also an opportunity to promote the Richmond Oval," he said.

Townsend is offering to appoint Colbert — who is now sponsoring the American speedskating team — as official ombudsman to monitor the treatment of Americans during the Games.

He sent Colbert a pink toque to be worn — should he accept the invite — as part of his uniform.

Calls to The Colbert Report were not returned by press time.

Colbert Nation

• A letter of protest, left, against organizers of the 2010 Games has been posted on the Colbert Nation website and can be downloaded, signed and sent to VANOC.

Emery out on bail till extradition

JEFF HODSON
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CUSTODY B.C.'s Prince of Pot has been granted bail and could temporarily be released from jail as early as today as he continues to await extradition to the U.S. to plead guilty to selling marijuana seeds.

Marc Emery has been held at the North Surrey Pre-Trial Centre in Port Coquitlam since turning himself over to authorities on Sept. 28.

He anticipated the extradition process would take 30 days, but his lawyer, Ian Donaldson, is ill with pleurisy and has been unable to file submissions.

"It's a maximum-security facility and it's been seven weeks," said Jodie Emery, Marc's wife. "He thought if he could get out for a week or two, or even a day, he would do it."

He has promised to surrender to U.S. custody within 72 hours after an extradition order is signed, which could happen as soon as Dec. 1, which is the final day for submissions.

Jodie Emery said jail has been tough on her husband. The food is awful and he doesn't get any sunlight. He is locked in his cell for 18 hours a day on weekdays and 20 hours a day on weekends.

"We're going to get some healthy food and just enjoy our time together."

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Local

Farmyard gets reprieve... for now

The Vancouver Parks Board last night deferred the vote on whether to close the Children's Farmyard in Stanley Park and the Bloedel Conservatory at Queen Elizabeth Park. The city is facing a budget crunch and the parks board has been asked to trim $2.8 million. METRO VANCOUVER

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
2009 Festival of Media Awards

Program encourages men to take care of themselves

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Men in British Columbia seem more interested in looking after their cars than their bodies — at least that's what recent life expectancy figures suggest — says a Vancouver doctor who specializes in men's health.

Dr. Larry Goldenberg, founding director of Vancouver Prostate Centre at Vancouver General Hospital, said women in B.C. live an average of five years longer than men — in large part because of lifestyle choices.

That's a statistic Goldenberg and the province are hoping to improve through a new men's health program that was launched yesterday.

Goldenberg said men are more likely to die of heart attack, suicide, fatal car crashes, HIV/AIDS and liver disease caused by alcoholism.

They are less likely than women to visit the doctor or hospital.

The Men's Health Initiative of B.C. aims to improve the longevity and quality of men's lives through awareness, research and delivery.

"In this way men can potentially add 10 good quality years to the middle of their lives and help themselves grow older without growing old," said Goldenberg.

Kevin Falcon, minister of health services, said there is much to learn from the women's health movement.

"The idea of men's health is another kind of lens through which health care delivery, education, research, prevention and awareness campaigns and public health policy may be viewed," he said.

Free public forum

- A free public forum on men's health is being held at 7 p.m. tonight at VGH main entrance. Call 604-875-4301 to reserve a seat. For more information visit www.aboutmen.ca.

News in brief

CHARGES Two men, aged 29 and 16, were arrested after a teen was threatened with a stun gun-type device and made to withdraw money. The 18-year-old victim was not injured.

OVERDOSE An ecstasy overdose killed a 20-year-old Whistler man last week. Kevin Van Huye died in hospital after he and another person became sick at home.

OLYMPICS The Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition is encouraging commuters to consider biking to work during the 2010 Winter Olympics. Massive road closures are expected.

INQUIRY The union representing B.C. paramedics said its members will not take part in an industrial inquiry commission announced by the government. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Ferry from downtown to West Van open for business

STIG NIELSEN
for Metro Vancouver

West Vancouver and the downtown have a water connection again.

The Coastal Runner, which opens to the general public today, made an inaugural crossing carrying VIPs yesterday morning to promote the new service linking Coal Harbour to Ambleside Pier.

West Vancouver Mayor, Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, rode the 70-passenger Coastal Link Ferries-operated vessel.

"It's wonderful to be on the water. It's wonderful to notice the tides and what's happening on the water," she said. "I believe this is a big part of living in this part of the world."

The crossing takes about 10 minutes and costs $5 one way or $9 for a return trip.

A monthly pass costs $125.

The service will run Monday to Friday, with the first trip out of West Vancouver at 7:30 a.m. The last trip in from downtown Vancouver is at 5 p.m.

The crossing is a six-month trial that Goldsmith-Jones said she would like to see expanded.

STIG NIELSEN/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

The Coastal Runner sails past the Lions Gate Bridge yesterday.

H1N1 claims 5 more lives

Flu Outbreak

Five more people died of H1N1 in B.C. this week, bringing the total number of deaths in the province since April to 30.

Health officials also said yesterday the number of infections appears to be declining but emphasized the best way to ward off a third wave of the virus is to get vaccinated.

"Complacency would be a mistake," Dr. Perry Kendall said.

It may take up to three weeks before the vaccine is made available without restrictions. STIG NIELSEN /FOR METRO VANCOUVER

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Earthquake rattles north coast area

JOLT A 6.6 magnitude earthquake jolted B.C.'s north coast yesterday morning but did not spawn a tsunami.

The quake occurred at 7:30 a.m. about 140 kilometres southeast of Queen Charlotte City, off the extreme southern tip of the Queen Charlotte Islands. It was felt as far away as Terrace. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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B.C. housing sales surge
Housing sales in British Columbia in October were the highest in six years. Sales jumped 115 per cent to 8,624 units in October, compared to same month in 2008. The average price of a home increased 17 per cent to $493,328. METRO VANCOUVER

YVR braces for crunch

Record departure numbers expected once Games end

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Vancouver's airport is preparing for a deluge of athlete and spectator departures at the close of the 2010 Games that will make their previous busiest day seem like a gentle drizzle in comparison.

"Everyone wants to leave town on the day after the closing ceremonies," said Paul Levy, the Vancouver Airport Authority's vice-president of 2010 Olympic planning. "(We) need to be prepared for a couple of days like we've never seen before."

As many as 39,000 people and upwards of 77,000 pieces of luggage will depart on March 1 — shattering YVR's previous record from August 2008 of 26,000 passengers and 29,200 bags.

To accommodate the large number of passengers, a 30,000-square-foot temporary terminal will be opened on Sea Island. As well, athletes and officials will be able to check-in 24 hours ahead of their scheduled departure at both athlete villages.

On March 1, the airport even plans to slip helpful reminder cards under hotel room doors asking passengers to be at YVR four hours ahead of their flight.

YVR has also invested $30 million to purchase snow-removal and de-icing equipment to avoid the chaos, long delays and cancelled flights it experienced last Christmas Eve.

It added 10 pieces of snow-removal equipment, bringing its total to 17 to speed up runway clearing times. It has also centralized its de-icing operations, so carriers no longer have to do their own de-icing.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Crews spray an Air Canada 737 with de-icing liquid during a demonstration at Vancouver International Airport yesterday.

Looking ahead

- YVR is expecting that an additional 231,000 passengers will pass through the airport during the Games period, including the daily arrival and departure of about 200 to 300 extra corporate aircraft.
- While the average passenger travels with 1.6 bags, an Olympic athlete travels with six to seven pieces of luggage, most of which are oversize.
- All flights during the Games that haven't been screened will have to land at a portal airport like Abbotsford or Kelowna, and passengers will have to go through security before the flight can proceed to Vancouver.

Police to disable potentially painful sound waves in device

TECHNOLOGY The capability to emit long-range sound waves that are powerful enough to cause pain is being disabled in a $17,000 device purchased by Vancouver police.

The Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD) will be used as a high-tech megaphone only, the Vancouver Police Department announced yesterday.

The B.C. Civil Liberties Association had earlier expressed concerns the LRAD would be used for crowd control during the 2010 Winter Olympics.

However, in response to concerns, Chief Const. Jim Chu said that the "tone" capability, which emits the high-pitched and possibly painful tone, will be disabled.

"If the department ever decided in the future to explore any alternate uses for the device, the VPD would develop appropriate policy and training for approval by the Vancouver Police Board," Const. Lindsey Houghton said in a release.

METRO VANCOUVER

Crown firms' pay above caps: Report

SALARIES More than half of the chief executive officers at B.C.'s taxpayer-funded Crown corporations earn salaries that are above government caps, says a report released yesterday by B.C. Auditor General John Doyle.

Of the province's 24 Crown CEOs, 54 per cent are paid above the government cap.

They include the CEOs of B.C. Hydro at $549,923, Partnerships B.C. at $509,453 and the B.C. Railway Company at $494,182.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

STUDY A University of B.C. study found that 36 per cent of the world's global fisheries' catch is ground up into fishmeal and oil to feed farmed fish, chickens and pigs. Globally, pigs and chicken eat six times more seafood than U.S. consumers.

RENTING B.C. is holding an information session tomorrow in Vancouver to explain the rights and responsibilities of landlords and tenants renting during the 2010 Winter Games. The session begins at 6 p.m. at Robson Square.

VIDEO The RCMP have agreed to release the videotape of the in-custody death of Clay Willey, a Prince George Métis man who died after he was Tasered in 2003. The video is compiled from security camera footage from police cells.

WINE The annual arrival of Beaujolais Nouveau wine from France takes place this Thursday at B.C. Liquor Stores.

STANDOFF A 38-year-old Vancouver man was taken into custody just before midnight on Monday after a three-hour standoff with police at an apartment in the 8,600 block of Osler Street. The man had allegedly walked onto his balcony and fired a handgun into the air. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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CBC cops to Palin snafu

The CBC has admitted it inadvertently displayed the jacket of an anti-Sarah Palin book during a story about the former vice-presidential candidate that aired on The National. The gaffe came Monday night during a piece on Palin's hotly anticipated new memoir Going Rogue: An American Life. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Gorilla to choose son's name with snacks

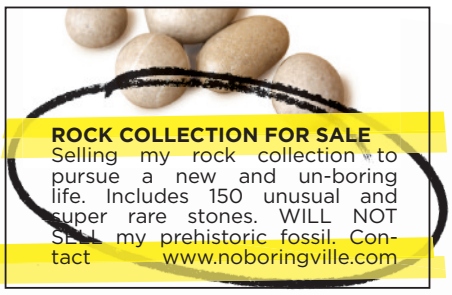
For some parents the process of selecting their child's name is filled with long discussions, baby name books and never-ending lists, but for Charles the gorilla it will be as easy as choosing his morning snack. The western lowland gorilla at the Toronto Zoo will be presented this morning with five piles of treats and five signs corresponding to options for the name of his baby son, born Sept. 2. Zoo staff decided to let Charles choose his son's name from five names.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto **Moore on health care**

COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Documentary maker Michael Moore speaks at a health-care conference in Toronto yesterday. Moore said Canadians have to stand on guard against creating two Canadas — one for the rich and one for the poor — when it comes to health care.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Money laundering fighter has too much info: Report

Security has led to 'insatiable appetite' for personal data, says Stoddart

The national agency that fights money laundering is collecting too much information about personal financial dealings, Canada's privacy watchdog says.

In her annual report, Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart also finds shortcomings with Transport Canada's no-fly list — a controversial initiative she has expressed reservations about for years.

Stoddart says the government's drive to secure public safety since the 9-11 terrorist attacks "has led to a seemingly insatiable appetite" for personal details.

"The unprecedented scope of government data collection that we are witnessing today heightens the risk of misuses and unauthorized disclosure," says the report tabled yesterday in Parliament.

Stoddart

"The consequences for individuals can be grave."

Stoddart says the little-known Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada must scale back its data gathering.

> **"The consequences for individuals can be grave."**
> Jennifer Stoddart, privacy commissioner

The centre, known as Fintrac, zeros in on cash linked to money laundering, terrorism and other crimes by sifting through information from banks, insurance companies, securities dealers, money service businesses, real estate brokers, casinos and others.

"While the centre has put in place elements of checks and controls, there are gaps that need to be addressed," Stoddart's report says.

She found that, although suspicious transaction reports are reviewed and prioritized, they are not assessed for reasonable suspicion of money laundering or terrorist financing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Iggy turns to veterans for new look

POLITICS Michael Ignatieff's office has a new look, with a bevy of veterans replacing the Liberal leader's inexperienced inner circle.

Announcing the new senior staff lineup was the first task for Peter Donolo, who officially began as Ignatieff's new chief of staff yesterday.

Donolo is himself a veteran, having served as communications director to former prime minister Jean Chrétien.

And he's chosen to surround himself with other experienced players.

"This is a very seasoned group of proven individuals with a wide breadth of experience in politics and the wider public sphere," Donolo said in a message to Liberal colleagues.

The new recruits include:

Mario Lague, one-time communications director to former prime minister Paul Martin, former diplomat and former senior bureaucrat. Lague will take over as Ignatieff's communications director.

Pat Sorbara, a longtime organizer and former senior adviser in David Peterson's Liberal government in Ontario. Sorbara was named Ignatieff's chief operating officer.

Brian Bohunicky, a former top ministerial aide during the Chrétien years. He takes over the Liberal caucus research bureau and will be a senior policy adviser to the leader.

Heather Chiasson, another Chrétien-era organizer and longtime party worker. She will be Ignatieff's liaison with the party.

Donolo has also shuffled some of the aides who remained in the office after the exodus of the last couple of weeks.

Jean Marc Fournier, a former Quebec cabinet minister who had been advising Ignatieff on the province, becomes principal secretary.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Seal meat on Parliament menu

FOOD Seal meat is about to join beef tenderloin and baked salmon on the haute-cuisine menu for MPs and senators in the parliamentary restaurant.

MPs say Parliament is picking up the fork from Gov.-Gen. Michaëlle Jean, who triggered a global controversy last May by gobbling seal meat in a show of support for Inuit culture in the Arctic.

The restaurant is one of the private gems on Parliament Hill. Members of the public can only enter the restaurant as guests of those holding a parliamentary pass.

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New U.S. breast cancer screening rules warn against false positives
New breast cancer screening guidelines in the U.S. warn against women in their 40s having routine mammograms because false positives can lead to unnecessary biopsies. But women aged 50 to 69 are advised to have tests every two years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'No reservations' on nuke deal with India: PM

Terrorist threats and civilian nuclear commerce performed a delicate dance yesterday as the prime ministers of Canada and India pledged mutual cooperation on a pair of hot-button issues that could bedevil a renewed Indo-Canadian relationship.

Stephen Harper sat down with Manmohan Singh to face a news conference that managed to link two seemingly disparate issues.

The meeting came as India was putting its nuclear facilities on alert due to intelligence linked to a Pakistani-Canadian being held on terrorism charges in the United States. So while Indian news media asked Harper, in effect, about the case of Tahawwur Hussain Rana, Canadians were questioning how the case impacts on a looming renewal of civilian nuclear trade with a country that holds an atomic arsenal. India used Canadian nuclear know-how to secretly build and test its first nuclear bomb in 1974, which soured relations.

"Notwithstanding the challenges that face this country ... this is a stable and reliable friend of our country and we have no reservations pursuing this kind of (civilian nuclear) agreement," Harper said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rana case

- Fears of an Indian nuclear power plant being targeted arose after related maps and documents were found in the possession of Canadian Tahawwur Hussain Rana, who is being held in Chicago on unrelated terror charges.

Watchdog gets more work, less funding?

CRIME Canada's financial transactions watchdog says its services are in greater demand than ever, yet the federal government has cut its budget by eight per cent in two years.

The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FinTRAC) referred 556 cases to domestic or foreign police and other agencies in 2008-09.

In tabling the centre's annual report in Parliament yesterday, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty lauded the centre's role in "strengthening the integrity of Canada's financial sector."

The centre's director, Jeanne Flemming, said FinTRAC is able to produce "more financial intelligence, more quickly" than ever in the face of growing demand.

However, the Conservative government, which has made anti-crime legislation a centrepiece of its agenda, has cut the centre's 2009-2010 budget to $48 million from $54.9 million in 2007-08.

A spokesman for the minister's office denied FinTRAC's budget has been cut. Media relations director Chisholm Pothier said by email: "The extra money that brought it up to $54 million was temporary funding announced in 2006 to implement specific amendments to the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act. That funding is no longer required."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Results

- The centre, with a staff of 295, analyzes transaction reports and discloses financial intelligence to domestic and foreign agencies. Its 2008-09, investigations covered 474 suspected money-laundering, 52 suspected terrorist financing and 30 combined cases.

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Activists delay suit over elephant

Animal rights activists are giving the City of Edmonton a month to provide proof that Lucy the elephant is too sick to be moved to a warm, California sanctuary. Zoocheck Canada and the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals say they will delay filing a lawsuit against the city over Lucy's health until Dec. 14. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Housakos info taken down

A second public biography that tied a Conservative senator to an engineering firm that won a lucrative federal stimulus contract was quickly edited to delete references to the position, following inquiries by The Canadian Press.

Senator Leo Housakos was on the payroll of Montreal-based BPR when the company won a $4.5-million contract as part of a consortium studying the future of that city's Champlain Bridge.

Housakos was described as holding the position of vice-president of business development with BPR on his Senate website and in official documents filed with the Senate Ethics Officer.

The senator said in an interview that although he had been hired to work at BPR last December, he was moved out of that job before he even began because of his Senate appointment later in the month. He says he took on the role of president and CEO of BPR's wholly owned subsidiary TerrEau instead.

Senator Leo Housakos

The Senate bio was changed a day after an interview with The Canadian Press, the discrepancies called an "oversight" by Housakos.

But another online biography on the website for international management consulting firm Alexander Proudfoot as recently as Saturday listed Housakos as "currently serving" as "vice president, business development with BPR engineering," as well as being president of TerrEau.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Diplomats told to withhold info on Afghan prisoners

CONTROVERSY Canadian diplomats in Afghanistan were ordered in 2007 to hold back information in reports about the handling of prisoners, say defence and foreign affairs sources.

The instruction — issued soon after allegations of torture by Afghan authorities began appearing in public — was aimed at defusing the human-rights controversy, said sources who spoke on the condition of anonymity. There was a fear that reports could be exposed by opposition parties and the media through access-to-information laws, further eroding already-tenuous public support.

The controversy was seen as "detracting from the narrative" the Harper government was trying to weave around the mission, said one official.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

CHILDREN Serious birth defects that strike as many as 2,000 babies each year in Quebec could be avoided, the author of a new study said yesterday. Researchers found that more than six per cent of pregnant Quebecers in the study took prescription drugs that are known to be dangerous for fetuses. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NYPD raids newspaper offices as part of union corruption probe
An official says the New York Police Department raided circulation offices at some of the United States' largest newspapers as part of a union corruption probe. Offices of The New York Times and the New York Post were raided yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Prague remembers

Thousands marched through the Czech capital of Prague yesterday in commemoration of a student protest 20 years ago that grew into the human tidal wave sweeping away the communist regime in what was then Czechoslovakia.

DUSAN VRANIC/THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP PHOTO

In this November 1989 file photo, a marcher carries a bust of former Soviet leader Joseph Stalin with a sign saying "Nothing Lasts Forever" in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

The Velvet Revolution of Nov. 17, 1989, began with fiery speeches at a university, inspiring thousands of students to march toward Wenceslas Square. As darkness fell, police cracked down hard, beating demonstrators and injuring hundreds. Unbowed, the crowds mushroomed in the ensuing days, with demonstrators chanting: "You have lost already!"

They were right. Following the collapse of the Berlin Wall and communism in the region, by Dec. 10, Czechoslovakia had a new government. For many retracing the march, it was a joyful return to a time when repression proved no match for people power.

"I came here with hope," said Renata Krbcova, 45, who studied at Charles University in 1989. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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U.S., China promise teamwork

BEIJING U.S. President Barack Obama and Chinese President Hu Jintao promised a determined, joint effort to tackle climate change, nuclear disarmament and other global troubles yet emerged from their first full-blown summit yesterday with scant progress beyond goodwill.

After two hours of talks and a separate meeting over dinner the night before, the presidents spoke of moving beyond the divisiveness over human rights, trade and military tensions that have bedeviled relations in past decades.

"The major challenges of the 21st century, from climate change to nuclear proliferation to economic recovery, are challenges that touch both our nations, and challenges that neither of our nations can solve by acting alone," Obama said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Row over bow

- U.S. conservative commentators are seizing on Barack Obama's bow to Japan's emperor over the weekend, accusing the commander in chief of grovelling to a foreign leader. Obama greeted Emperor Akihito, whose father ruled when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, with a simultaneous handshake and near 90-degree bow.

Would-be Seattle ninja impales himself on fence

SEATTLE Police say a man who thought he was ninja was impaled on a metal fence when he tried to leap over it.

An officer who was looking for an assault victim Monday night heard the man screaming for help.

Police supported him to prevent further injuries until medics arrived and took him to a hospital, where he was in serious condition in intensive care yesterday.

Police spokeswoman Renee Witt wrote in a department website posting that officers thought the man might have been involved in the reported assault, but he insisted he was just a ninja trying to clear a 1.5 metre-tall fence.

Witt says the man was "overconfident in his abilities," and that alcohol likely played a role.

His name was not released. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Putin tears the roof off

RUSSIA Putin in da house? Vladimir Putin is adding another groove to his tough guy persona: Hip hop idol. The Russian Prime Minister appeared on Muz-TV to hand out awards and declare that Russian hip-hoppers can help fight drugs. "I have to say that young people involved in these arts give them their own Russian charm," he said Friday. Putin did not rap, but he did deliver his speech clutching a mike to the backdrop of a hip hop beat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Russian ship stuck in the ice in Antarctica

A Russian icebreaker carrying more than 100 tourists, scientists and journalists on a cruise around Antarctica was struggling to free itself from sea ice about eight kilometres from clear water on yesterday, a shipping company said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Afghan 'corruption is a phenomenon'

Afghanistan has slipped three places to become the world's second most-corrupt country despite billions in aid meant to bolster the government against a rising insurgency, according to an annual survey of perceived levels of corruption.

Only lawless Somalia, whose weak UN-backed government controls just a few blocks of the capital, was perceived as more corrupt than Afghanistan in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index.

Iraq saw some improvement, rising to 176 of 180 countries, up two places from last year.

Singapore, Denmark and New Zealand were seen as the least corrupt countries in the list based on surveys of businesses and experts.

In Afghanistan, President Hamid Karzai's inability or unwillingness to tackle cronyism and bribery the past five years have resulted in an increase of support for the Taliban insurgents.

That has prompted calls by the Obama administration for Karzai to tackle the practice or risk forfeiting U.S. aid. Since 2001, the U.S. Congress has appropriated more than $39 billion in humanitarian and reconstruction assistance for Afghanistan.

International donors are increasingly questioning how much of the billions of dollars in aid might have been misappropriated.

The report said examples of Afghan corruption ranged from the sale of government positions to daily bribes for basic services.

Karzai unveiled an anti-corruption unit and major crime fighting force yesterday after heavy pressure from Washington.

In reaction to the report, Ershad Ahmadi, the deputy director general of the High Office of Oversight and Anti-corruption in Afghanistan, said that "corruption is a phenomenon that will not go away overnight. It is a problem that will continue to be with Afghanistan for a long time." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rankings

Most corrupt:

1. Somalia
2. Afghanistan
3. Myanmar
4. Sudan
5. Iraq

Least corrupt:

1. New Zealand
2. Denmark
3. Singapore
4. Sweden
5. Switzerland
9. Canada

SOURCE: TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

News in brief

AUSTRALIA Formerly conjoined Bangladeshi twins spent their first night in separate beds and were in serious but stable condition yesterday following a marathon surgery to separate the toddlers, who were joined at their heads. Trishna and Krishna, who turn three next month, shared skull, blood vessels and brain tissue. They were separated after 25 hours of delicate surgery and reconstruction by a team of 16 surgeons and nurses. It is too early to know whether the girls suffered any brain damage during the marathon operation — an outcome doctors said was a 50-50 chance.

MISSOURI Detectives are investigating whether members of a family already charged with sexually abusing children may have also killed several people. Prosecutors have charged Burrell E. Mohler Sr. with rape, sodomy and use of a child in a sexual performance. His four sons are also charged with rape. A search warrant says three women who say they were abused as children also observed "several murders," and they were forced to help bury a man. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lori Su
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Colorado considers taxing medical marijuana
Colorado Governor Bill Ritter plans to direct medical marijuana dispensaries to start paying sales tax after Colorado Attorney John Suthers concluded medical marijuana is considered personal property and shouldn't be treated like prescription drugs, which are tax exempt. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Woman will return, only with bodyguard

Twenty-year-old Brazilian harassed, kicked out of university for wearing short dress

Brushing back freshly dyed blond hair as she posed for pictures, the Brazilian woman whose short pink dress got her kicked out of college said yesterday she's enjoying her newfound fame, but wants to go back to school — with a security guard.

Just the day before, 20-year-old Geisy Arruda took her first trip on an airplane so she could relive her experience in a comedy skit on one of Brazil's most popular television shows.

It was heady stuff for a 20-year-old freshman who says she just wants to get a tourism degree so she can fulfil dreams of working for a resort or a cruise line.

She'd already appeared on two of Brazil's top interview programs, recounting how she was hounded from the campus of Bandeirantes University in October by male students yelling "Whore! Whore!" and was then expelled by school officials.

The private university backtracked amid a national uproar and said last week she was welcome to return for her regular routine of night classes.

But Arruda's lawyer says she won't go back until she's promised a well-trained security guard to accompany her on campus.

She said she's still stumped that an outfit, no matter how short, would cause such an uproar in a tropical nation where skimpy clothing and tiny bikinis barely raise an eyebrow.

Arruda said one young man said he liked her looks, then more joined in.

Soon other students loudly proclaimed they wanted to have sex with her, snapping pictures with their cellphones. Hundreds were drawn to the scene, creating a sort of mob mentality, Arruda said. Chants of "Whore! Whore!" erupted from the mob as she was escorted from the university in a borrowed white lab coat.

Arruda said she had worn the dress to classes once before, in March, with no reaction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Geisy Arruda has been told she can return to Bandeirantes University.

News in brief

PLOT Prosecutors in Washington State have filed charges of solicitation to commit first-degree murder against a laser eye surgeon accused of trying to have two colleagues killed. Dr. Michael Mockovak, 51, is accused of paying an informant to have his business partner, Dr. Joseph King, murdered. Mockovak and King co-founded the Clearly Lasik franchise, which also has outlets in B.C. and Alberta. King is a graduate of the University of British Columbia and holds both Canadian and American citizenship. Prosecutors allege the other intended victim was Brad Klock, a former hockey player from Port Alberni, who had sued the company after being dismissed from his job as company president.

NEW YORK A police car working ahead of U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden's motorcade was involved in a minor traffic accident last night. Biden was unhurt. Three people were examined at a hospital. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

All the world's a stage for Harper

TheWestView

I guess it's time to admit it: Stephen Harper has got his groove.

It's not easy to admit when you've always thought the PM was the Canadian equivalent of the Dark Lord, surrounding himself with a cabal of fundamentalist Christian Orcs who think the world is 10,000 years old and the little woman belongs in the kitchen, barefoot and denied birth control.

But even I have to admit that the PM is at the wheel in the fast lane and deserves to be there. It all started last month with a Little Help From His Friends, when Harper uncharacteristically crooned the Beatle tune at the piano and solidified his political fortunes.

And this week, he took the stage in Bollywood, of all places, looking like Stephen the Stud with his backup stable of dancers.

All of a sudden, this Reform Party wonk seems to own the stage, even displaying a dash of panache, while Opposition Leader Michael Ignatieff, the Pierre Trudeau of the 21st century, comes off looking like that other Stéphane.

It's not all Harper, of course. Iggy made a bad trade, giving up reflection and discernment for equivocation and poll-watching. He made the great mistake of trying to live up to his expectations right out of the gate by threatening the PM with a great thrashing, and then, exposed as a poseur, left the room in haste, pink cheeks and all.

The PM's recent song-and-dance routine is just the latest from the man with the plan. He has managed to keep the Orcs from savaging small children in public and has somehow kept his minority mandate alive through two opposition leaders and the worst recession since the Dirty '30s.

He's done it with discipline. And he's done it with a song, if not in his heart, at least on his lips. It doesn't matter if it's all spin. It is spin that sends the following message, apparently irresistible to Canadians: This guy is tough but human. It's a strategy stolen directly from the playbooks of Messieurs Trudeau and Jean Chrétien, two other tough but humans. They were marvellous to watch, using whatever props were available to demonstrate their humanity. Trudeau could say more with a rose than any metrosexual alive today, and Chrétien was all hearty (and heartily fake) bonhomie.

Stephen Harper is standing on the shoulders of giants, and in the process, is starting to stand tall all by himself. Sing us another song, Mr. Harper; you're the piano man now.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: What do you think of professional athletes participating in the Olympic torch relay?

Sandy Lam
age 20, Vancouver

A: The Games should be fun for everyone and everyone should be allowed to participate. Pro athletes should be allowed to hold the torch, it shouldn't just be for amateurs — they get to participate in the Games.

Taylor Patterson
age 24, Vancouver

A: I think there is no problem with it because athletes are the reason the Olympics exist in the first place. If anything, it probably draws more attention to it because people who follow those particular athletes will be interested in what they are doing, also following the torch relay.

Lena DaBrusin
age 19, Vancouver

A: I think the Olympics should be for amateurs, but the torch relay represents a universal event that anyone can participate in, so I think pro athletes should be able to participate as private people.

Tony Cadri
age 23, Calgary

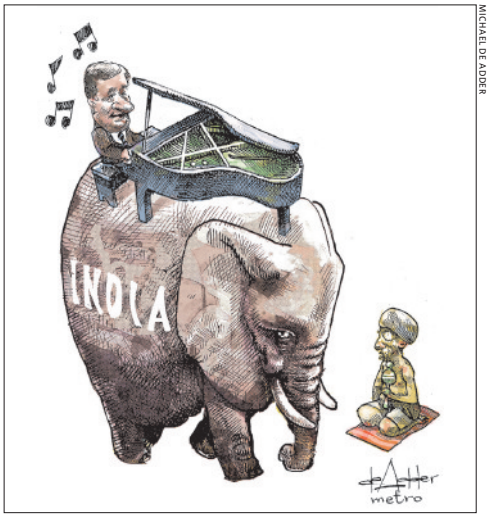
A: There shouldn't be any difference from the other people who carry the torch. Involving everyone is in the spirit of the Games.

Natalie Keyes
age 32, Halifax

A: I think it's nice to have a combination of regular people like me and athletes. It helps to promote (the relay).

Ian Vandaelle
age 19, Toronto

A: I think it's an important way to raise awareness for the Games. It really brings people in ... It's good for exposure.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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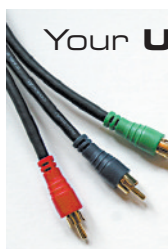
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Microsoft co-founder diagnosed with cancer
Microsoft Corp. co-founder and billionaire investor Paul Allen has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and is undergoing chemotherapy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

CBC pushes skinny TV

The CBC says it has a simple solution to the battle over so-called television tax controversy facing cable and satellite subscribers.

The public broadcaster is telling the federal regulator it should force the carriers to offer a skinny service of Canadian stations at a cost lower than current basic service offered by cable firms.

CBC president Hubert Lacroix told the CRTC cable companies are growing rich on the signals they currently retransmit free from the broadcasters.

And he presented what he says is proof the system is broken, tabling graphs showing profits for broadcasters have been on a steady downward path since the introduction of cable specialty channels in the early 1980s.

"Its pretty obvious that the Canadian BDUs (carriers) are winning this race to the top."
Hubert Lacroix, CBC president

He says cable firms like Rogers Communications and Shaw Communications have been raking in profits since cable fees were deregulated in 1998.

Lacroix says the cost to consumers of the basic cable package has risen four times more than the cost of living in the past decade.

"Its pretty obvious that the Canadian BDUs (carriers) are winning this race to the top," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

INVESTMENTS The head of the Caisse de depot says Canada's largest pension fund manager plans a change in strategy to ensure long term returns while also helping Quebec companies to better compete around the world.

CASE A lawyer for Scotiabank says a class action lawsuit over unpaid overtime should be dismissed because thousands of employees involved in the case have individual claims.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Technology Kindle is finally here

BEN MARGOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos displays a Kindle at a recent interview in California. The Kindle is coming to Canada. Amazon.com announced yesterday the ebook reader, with its high-resolution 15-centimetre screen, is now available to Canadians. Scan the code on the right or visit metronews.ca for the full story.

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IT'S NOT JUST COFFEE. IT'S STARBUCKS.

Greinke wins AL Cy Young

Zack Greinke won the American League Cy Young Award yesterday, beating out Seattle's Felix Hernandez after a spectacular season short on wins but long on domination. Greinke went 16-8 with a 2.16 ERA for the Kansas City Royals. Toronto's Roy Halladay finished fifth in the voting. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Shanahan calls it quits

Veteran forward Brendan Shanahan, left, is retiring after 21 years in the NHL. The 39-year-old unrestricted free agent finishes his career 11th on the NHL's all-time goal scoring list with 656 goals. In 1,524 games, Shanahan amassed 1,354 points. He is the only player in NHL history to collect more than 2,000 penalty minutes and 600 goals. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Late play key for Lions

CFL PREVIEW

B.C. at Montreal

VS

CFL The B.C. Lions better be prepared to shut down the Montreal Alouettes late in Sunday's East Division final if they want to reach the Grey Cup game.

Finishing off teams late in the fourth quarter has been a problem for the Lions who have been tied or beaten late in three of their last four games.

And they could have another tight game Sunday with 15-3 Montreal based on this season's form chart. B.C. escaped with a 19-12 home win when a late Alouette touchdown was disallowed. They lost 28-24 in Montreal on a last-minute major.

"I feel really bad about that," defensive end Ricky Foley said about the late defensive collapses.

"Somehow, some way we've just got to keep our composure, keep our heads straight and keep doing what we've been doing the whole game."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Weekly honours

- Lions quarterback Casey Printers was named CFL offensive player of the week yesterday while teammate Ricky Foley was named defensive player and top Canadian.

Next 5 crucial for Canucks

TheHockeyNews

Rory Boylen

thehockeynews.com

When the Canucks have a stretch of five days between games in October and a similar six-day layoff between games in November, you have to wonder why so many games are being crammed together later on in February, March and even April, when they play their final six games of the season in 10 days.

But when the Canucks return to the ice Friday against Colorado, they'll open a five-game home stretch that is important for a few different reasons.

Last time we saw them, the Canucks popped Colorado's Baron von Munchausen fantasy balloon with an 8-2 thrashing, so another win over the Avs would go a long way toward keeping that momentum through the rest of the month — a loss to the division leaders could deflate Vancouver's own balloon just in time to meet their nemesis from the Windy City.

Every team the Canucks play for the rest of this month is ahead of them in the standings with the exception of Edmonton — and that one is important for the inner-division points at stake.

Finally, the home stay — which represents the longest to this point in the season — is important because of how brutal the Canucks gave been on the road this season. Granted they have been hit hard by injuries, but the discrepancy between their 7-2-0 record at GM Place and their 4-8-0 mark outside of British Columbia is too great to excuse.

On December 2, Vancouver takes off on a four-game road trip before coming back for another extended run at home with eight games in 16 days. Both this stretch and the one in December are crucial for the Canucks, who will spend all of February on the road, playing seven games in 13 nights before the world descends on Vancouver for the Olympics.

But first things first. Without looking ahead to the next run of games at home or the worrisome road trip in February, the Canucks have to be gunning for at least four wins to close out November.

Because not only are their home games important when accompanied by such a lousy road record, but Daniel Sedin is expected back soon, so the expectations will start to spike again quickly.

The Hockey News thn.com

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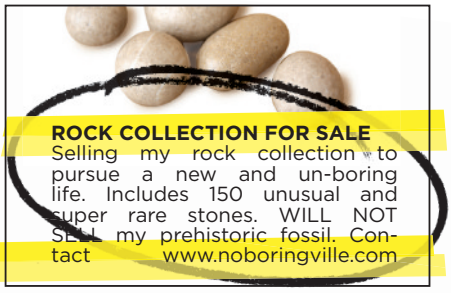
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NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	193	98	128	226
2. Joanne Doiron	NB, CA	191	98	123	221
3. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	193	103	114	217
3. Paula Almeida-Stille		193	95	122	217
3. Stephen Stille	ON, CA	193	95	122	217
6. Rick Kit	ON, CA	191	93	121	214
7. Danny Chan	ON, CA	192	90	121	211
7. Stephanie Warren	NS, CA	191	93	118	211
9. Brian B	AB, CA	196	92	118	210
9. Edward Smith	NS, CA	186	94	116	210
11. Claude Brunelle	BC, CA	191	87	122	209
12. Jonathon Gremsperger	BC, CA	189	99	109	208
12. Neil Mann	ON, CA	188	102	106	208
12. Patrick Reed	AB, CA	190	96	112	208
15. B Fillmore	BC, CA	192	74	133	207

* Results exclude Quebec

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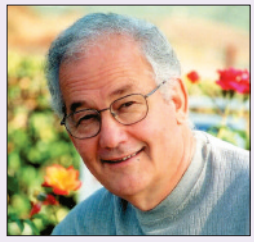

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Aboriginal Gathering Place opens at Northern Lights College 13

Last week, British Columbia.-based Northern Lights College officially opened its new Aboriginal Gathering Place at its Fort Nelson campus. The gathering place features artwork and cultural artifacts commissioned by local Aboriginal bands. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Niagara College hits the wine

Earlier this month, Niagara College held an opening ceremony for its new Wine Visitor and Education Centre at its Niagara-on-the-Lake campus. Set in the school's teaching vineyards, the $3.6-million centre will showcase and promote the Ontario and Canadian wine industry, provide wine tourism information services, and feature academic and wine industry programming. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Workology in **brief**

MEMORIAL'S NEW PLAN Memorial University, in St. John's, N.L., announced last week the development of the university's research plan, and is looking to hear from as many stakeholders as possible to help steer MUN in the right direction. The impetus for the research plan flows from the university's strategic plan, released in 2007. One of the five pillars in the strategic plan focuses on research, creative activity, and scholarship. Under that pillar, there are five goals relating to the advancement of research at MUN. The new plan will address these goals and review existing research themes and their development.

MORE MONEY FROM ONTARIO The Ontario government announced last Thursday that seven new Crown Ward Education Championship Teams will offer mentorship, peer support, motivation, and guidance to Crown wards across Ontario, doubling the number of teams across the province to 14. The teams will help students access and succeed in higher education and training. The teams include volunteers from local school boards, Children's Aid Societies, PSE institutions, community agencies, Employment Ontario, and provincial ministries.

RDC RACK UP THE REWARDS Red Deer College has won six Medallion Awards from District 7 of the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations, which recognizes excellence in college publications and marketing efforts. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Seasonal employees fuel the holiday rush

'Tis the **Season**

Over the next few weeks Metro's Workology section will be shining a light on some of the jobs that pop up around the holiday season and dissappear just as quickly afterwards. Check back every Wednesday.

We tend to think of seasonal workers as following the rhythms of land and sea, fishing and farming as animals and crops reach an abundance, but for many workers the season they follow is signalled by the ringing of cash-register bells during the holiday season.

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

Across Canada, a vast workforce of shopping-mall Santas, office party caterers, Christmas tree retailers, outdoor decorators and fundraisers for charitable organizations is assembled to produce, ship and sell goods for the king of holidays, in a holiday season that stretches for months.

Jim MacGregor, director of associate relations for Sears Canada, is one of many in the retail industry gearing up for the annual recruitment drive. In Atlantic Canada alone, the company is hiring about 200 extra staff to deal with the holiday rush.

"We do a lot of seasonal hiring," he says. "This time of year, it's more in the stores — anything that would help a customer."

While some of the seasonal hires are hoping to move on to full-time employment, a lot are university students or parents who don't usually work looking to earn a little extra money to buy holiday gifts and cover the end-of-year bills.

It works well for Sears: Many of the extra workers are regular Sears shoppers.

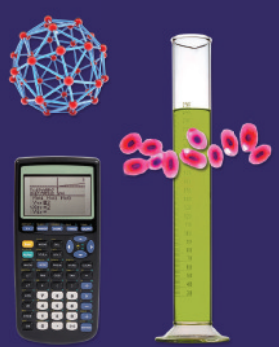
"It really represents our customers," MacGregor agrees. "If they're coming just for seasonal, then typically that's what it is: They're looking for extra spending money."

For some forward-thinking seasonal workers, that extra money is earned in the summer. Grace Rivers is the corporate relations director at the Canada-wide recruitment agency Adecco Employment Services. While retail outlets hire their own seasonal staff in the late fall, her firm works overtime for the summer holiday boom.

The "light industrial" areas of manufacturing and distribution for companies like Sears, Hudson Bay and Canadian Tire create and ship items over the summer so that everything is in place come the holiday season, Rivers explains. That creates a seasonal spike in demand for warehouse jobs.

"(Companies) know they have to ramp up their work force at a certain time. They get their product out, and then they ramp down. They know their sales are going to increase over Christmas, but they planned for that last April," she says.

By the end of the year, many office workers are burnt out, that's where office party caterers come in, just one of the many forms of seasonal — holiday — employment.



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University of Ottawa professor succumbs to swine flu

University of Ottawa chemistry professor Keith Fagnou passed away in hospital last Wednesday of flu-related complications after contracting the H1N1 virus. Ottawa Public Health reports the 38-year-old had no known underlying medical conditions. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Textbook Curtain call?

Toronto school eschews paper by going digital

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

A Toronto high school is ditching printed textbooks in favour of digital ones in a move the school head says will boost learning while saving money and the environment.

Blyth Academy is the first school in the world to offer up Sony Readers and loaning them to students for free in lieu of textbooks. The touch-screen devices give students access to textbooks, outlines, assignments, reference materials, background reading and personal timetables. It will also hook them up with 500,000 free books via Google's Sony e-Bookstore, the school says.

"The digital content we've acquired, coupled with the students' Sony Readers, will dramatically improve student access to textbooks, collateral material, literature and reading in general," said Sam Blyth, chairman of Blyth Academy. "Our student survey shows that they are twice as likely to read a book available in an e-book format as in hard-copy form."

The move will save each pupil about $700 a year on books and means they no longer have to lug a stack to and from school every day.

"Our students love the technology — they love reading off the electronic readers," Blyth says. "They're colourful, interactive, they've got audio, they've got visuals, they will stream video. It's just a much better way to learn."

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Students at Blyth Academy will now have access to all their textbooks via their own Sony Reader.

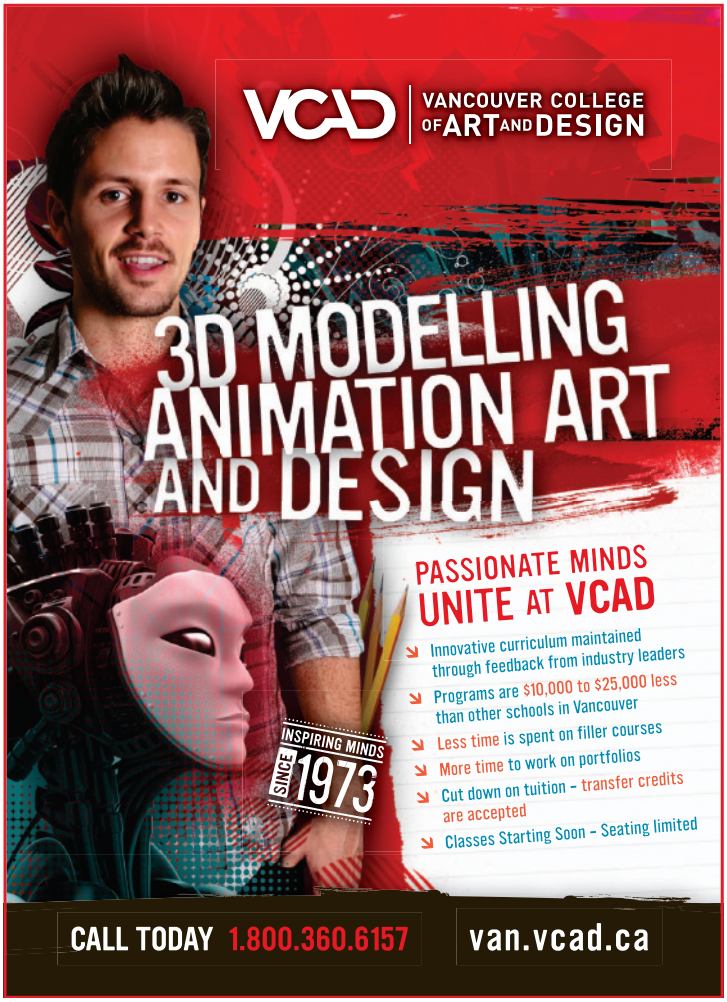
It's just a much better way to learn."
Sam Blyth, chairman of Blyth academy on the Sony Reader

The Readers are about the size of a big paperback and the writing looks like ink, but if a reader is stumped by a word the embedded Oxford English Dictionary will tell them what it means. Students can also highlight text and take notes via a touch keyboard or a stylus.

Students quickly spotted its potential green factor, too. "One student said to me, 'If every student in the country took their textbooks in an electronic form, it would save hundreds of thousands of acres of trees,'" Blyth says.

In the future, he's hoping to see real-time live tutoring, so if a math problem puzzles you, you can click a link and connect to a tutor 24-hours a day, seven days a week. The e-books will eventually be able to read to students, a big help for someone learning English or with learning difficulties.

"We're excited about how the Sony Reader can enhance a student's learning experience," says Tim Algate of Sony Canada. "We'll be listening to these students and using their feedback to evolve our Reader offering for education."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Lowering tuition won't affect PSE participation
Speaking at a meeting of the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology, University of Toronto professor Ben Levin argued against reducing tuition fees, stating that such a policy would be expensive to schools and have very little impact on participation. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Law often leans toward workers

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

Metronews.ca/workplacelaw

Most employees cling to beliefs about workplace rights they gleaned from media, friends or researching on the Internet. But many of these "perceived" rights often do not exist. Here are some of my favourite misconceptions:

• **Poor performance is cause for lower severance:** Except in extraordinary cases, the quality of performance is irrelevant when assessing whether there is a right to severance. Similarly, there is no such concept as "near" cause, meaning both stars and incompetents should receive the same payouts if fired.

• **Promotions and bonuses must be assessed fairly:** An employer may decide, often arbitrarily, who it wishes to promote and how it will compensate its employees. It is entitled to show favouritism, as long as its decision is not based on personal characteristics, such as race, religion or gender.

• **Severance is based on a rule of thumb:** Courts do not assess severance based on a formula, such as one month per year of service, and neither will your employer. Instead, severance is based on factors such as age, tenure, your position and your relative re-employability.

• **An employer is entitled to overtime pay for any additional hours worked:** Unless agreed to in an employment contract, which is unlikely, overtime pay is only required for hours worked in excess of the statutory standards, which vary among provinces.

• **If an employee was terminated, he or she will not receive EI:** On the contrary, only employees who are terminated for "cause" may not be eligible. Employees who are fired for poor performance, laid off, restructured, or downsized are all eligible for employment insurance.

• **The Ministry of Labour will protect your rights:** Provincial agencies can only enforce statutory rights, found in legislation. However, most employee grievances are based on common law rights, which are separate from legislation. To challenge your employer on any significant financial issue, you will typically have to go to court.

"Courts do not assess severance based on a formula, such as one month per year of service, and neither will your employer. Instead, severance is based on factors such as age, tenure, your position and your relative re-employability."

• **An employee is entitled to a letter of reference:** This is simply untrue. Although the failure to provide a reference can contribute to the severance you may receive, there is no rule or law compelling an employer to provide a reference letter or even to confirm your previous employment.

• **Harassment is in the eye of the beholder another 'Perceived right'** Today, most employees view themselves as "harassed." But harassment is a subjective concept. For it to amount to a meritorious claim, the conduct complained of must be such that no reasonable employee would be expected to persevere in the eyes of the judge.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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Dragons'Den

Dianne Buckner

metronews.ca/dragonsden

Recession? What recession? Yes the economy is worrisome, and the recovery "fragile," as world leaders keep telling us, but even amidst the layoffs, there is plenty of vitality and creativity in Canada.

GM and Chrylser aren't hiring, but plenty of small start-ups may be … and tonight's episode of Dragons' Den is a solid reminder.

The job numbers released two weeks ago were discouraging — a loss of 43,000 part-time jobs in October — but it would have been much worse if 27,000 new "jobs" hadn't been created by the growth in self-employment. Hard-working, resourceful people are devising their own jobs.

What an incredible amount of creative and entrepreneurial energy there is in this country! Tonight in the Den you'll see great examples: A school for club DJs called "ScratchLab" (it offers a high school credit); radio and television programming for cats and dogs; and a system to turn waste from the fishing industry (lobster and crab shells) into fertilizer and pharmaceuticals. That's only part of tonight's roster of innovative ideas.

Two of the dragons, Arlene Dickinson and Robert Herjavec, recently told me their companies experienced tremendous growth during tough times. And that's not uncommon — throughout history, plenty of businesses have flourished and new strategies have been hatched during challenging economies.

It was during the Great Depression that both Fortune Magazine and BusinessWeek began publishing. Also around that time Proctor and Gamble created the first soap opera for radio — to promote their detergent called Dreft. Tough times call for creative solutions!

Home Depot opened its first two stores near Atlanta in 1979 just before a recession, and expanded dramatically during a time that most companies were battening down the hatches.

Early in this century, during the economic instability after 9-11, two incredibly successful products, the Swiffer and Axe body spray were launched.

I've heard more than a few business leaders talk about the fact that there's a great opportunity to capture business when competitors are being timid, possibly frightened by all the bad headlines.

If you can make it now, you can make it anytime. A good thought for all the bold pitchers on tonight's episode!

Dianne Buckner is the host of the Gemini-winning Dragons' Den and on of the weekend anchors on the CBC News Network. Watch Dragons' Den at 8 p.m. tonight on CBC.

Kia rewards

Kia Canada has announced the launch of its Customers Rewards Program, the first of its kind in the Canadian automotive industry. The program includes discounts on future dealership purchases, added vehicle services, and access to exclusive offers. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Metro Drive

'Spa' on wheels

French automaker Renault has revealed the Zoe Z.E. electric car concept, whose interior apparently mirrors a "spa-like experience." No surprise that the car was designed with help from cosmetics manufacturer Biotherm. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Accord steps up

The 2010 Honda Accord Crossover is based on the Accord sedan.

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

Honda's 2010 Accord Crosstour is part of an emerging automotive segment of vehicles that have the qualities of a station wagon, a utility vehicle and a minivan but can't be categorized as either.

Like its cousin, the Acura ZDX, and the BMW X6, that arguable started it all, the Accord Crosstour is a fastback luxury tourer aimed at mature buyers with time, money and leisure on their minds.

Sit in the driver's seat and any previous Honda owner will feel at home right down to the shape and feel of the steering wheel. Like a BMW, everything is where you expect to find it.

But there is also a big difference.

The Crosstour is more like the Acura with the use of premium quality materials such as wood trim separating the upper and lower, two-tone or monotone interior.

Seating is leather with surprising few options because most amenities like the 360-watt sound system with an array of speakers, USB device and MP3 jack, to name a few, are standard.

Because the sharp rearward rake of the back hatch appears to rob cargo room, Honda Canada officials made a big thing about capacity at the press launch.

Behind the 60/40 split/fold rear seat there are 728 litres with the cargo floor flat. Lift this up and there is a 54-litre bin concealed which has two, four-litre cubbies on each side. The floor panel is carpeted on one side and plastic on the other so it can be used to haul stuff like plants and soil and then be hosed off after use.

If they decided to go down a rutted cottage country path, the Accord Crosstour has all-wheel-drive (AWD) as an option.

There is one engine offered in the form of a 3.5-litre, SOHC V6 producing 271 hp and 254 lb/ft of torque.

With the standard five-speed automatic transmission, fuel economy is rated at 11.5/7.2L/100 km city/highway for the front-wheel-drive version (FWD) and 12.3/8.0L/100 km city/highway for the AWD.

The Crosstour is fully fitted out with safety features like six airbags, active front seat headrests (which is crucial in my opinion), four-wheel disc brakes with ABS (with brake assist and electronic brake force distribution), tire pressure monitoring, and Honda Vehicle Stability Control (VSC) with traction control.

2010 Honda Accord Crosstour

Type: Crossover station wagon
Price: from $36,000 (estimate)
Engine: 3.5-litre SOHC, V6 (271 hp, 254 lb/ft)

Highlights

- Luxury look with Honda feel
- Solid on road
- AWD option

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

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Rebate	($2,850)

KIA Vancouver price $11,700

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KIA Sedona 2009 LX V6

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KIA Soul 2010

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Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit. $0 due at signing, when leasing or purchase financing, offers include freight and air tax, but exclude license, insurance, fuel fill charge, registration, PPSA, administration fees and all other applicable taxes. Freight and air tax charges to be included in the total amount to be financed. Excluded variable charges can be amortized over a purchase financing term, but are required up front charges for lease customers. See your Ford Dealer for complete details. $0 Security Deposit on the lease of most new 2010 Ford vehicles (excluding 2010 Ford Shelby GT 500, Transit Connect, E-Series Cutaway, F-150 Raptor, F-350 Chassis Cabs Gas & Diesel Engines, F-450 & F-550 Chassis Cabs Gas & Diesel Engines) effective November 3, 2009 through January 4, 2010. Security Deposit may be required by Ford Credit based on customer credit terms and conditions. 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Ford Recycle Your Ride incentives are not available on any vehicle receiving Commercial Fleet Incentive Program, Competitive Price Allowance or Government Price Concession, Fleet Delivery Allowance, or Daily Rental Incentives. By participating in this program you will not be eligible for any trade-in value for your old vehicle. The Government of Canada's "Retire Your Ride Program" is not available to residents of Northwest Territories, Yukon or Nunavut and, therefore, Ford Recycle Your Ride incentives are also not available to residents of North West Territories Yukon or Nunavut. Other provincially specific rewards may be available in association with the government's "Retire Your Ride program", for more information visit retireyourride.ca. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ©2009 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. 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Based on Ford branded vehicle sales from the manufacturers' month-end release December 2008. ***Most 2010 Ford vehicles, excluding 2010 Model LCF, F-650 and F-750, come with a 5 year/100,000 km (whichever occurs first) Powertrain Warranty and full Roadside Assistance benefits together with a 5 year/100,000 km (whichever occurs first) Safety Restraint Warranty. In addition, on all 2010 Model F-Super Duty vehicles equipped with the diesel engine, the Powertrain Warranty is extended to 5 year/160,000 km (whichever occurs first), which equals the diesel engine warranty. Some conditions and limitations apply. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673.

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SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Kitchen fixes popular

LINA TOYODA
for Metro Vancouver

A kitchen before it was renovated, left, and after the work was completed, right, by My House Design/Build Team Inc.

In the world of home renovations, kitchens and bathrooms get you the biggest bank for your buck.

Renovating your home is a great way to add resale value in the market, but for most, it is really a labour of love.

"Resale is not what drives the over $7-billion renovation market in B.C. It's enjoyment and pride of ownership," says Ralph Belisle, president of TQ Construction, a B.C.-owned and operated renovation company.

Canadians spend upwards of $50 billion annually on home renovations, and Belisle says the most popular renos have been the same for two decades: Kitchens, curb appeal, and bathrooms.

"Many years ago, the kitchen was a very large area and everybody ate in there," said Peter Simpson, CEO of the Greater Vancouver Home Builders' Association. It was a social gathering place, says Simpson, and the trend is going back to that open concept.

An adjacent deck, dining area and kitchen, for example, creates an open space that can be used for get-togethers.

"It's a feel-good business," Belisle says. "We're delivering a satisfaction that makes people have more comfort, efficiency and happiness."

Certain designs also appeal more to the market than others, so those elements can be kept in mind in the designing phase.

"People spend a lot of time in those two places — kitchens and bathrooms — and the different products that are available now are quite significant," Simpson said.

Ultimately, people want more efficiency and space, so creating a multi-purpose area is a good idea.

Belisle says one of the most common projects is to add space for a growing family. And even though a baby needs just one room, somehow the project will often end up including the master bedroom and kitchen. It becomes a family affair, he says.

Because of the growing popularity of DIY shows and interior design magazines, homeowners are also starting to have a hand in their own redesigns.

Installing environmental fixtures and enabling wireless access to technology are popular choices today, says Belisle.

But by far, Belisle says the best third-party involvement in the business this year has been the Home Renovation Tax Credit. "It's been an enormous boost for keeping up the renovation business in the economic downturn," he said.

The right upgrades can equal big savings

LEYLA EMORY
for Metro Vancouver

About the HRTC

- The Home Renovation Tax Credit of up to $1,350 applies to alterations "of an enduring nature and integral to the dwelling," meaning anything that is nailed down or wouldn't get transported away.
- The HRTC eligible expenditures are more than $1,000.
- For more, log on to cra-arc.gc.ca/gncy/bdgt/2009/fqhmrnvtn-eng.html.

Updated kitchens and bathrooms can mean money. But the right upgrades can mean savings.

"Product ideas and approaches to decorating are the two big tickets to saving money," says Kristan Cunningham, former host of HGTV's Design on a Dime.

Since appliances are "where you'll put down the biggest chunk of change when you take on a kitchen or bathroom remodel," according to Cunningham, start at the source. "Most appliance stores have a scratch and dent section. Once something has been used as a floor model or has been unpackaged, they have to discount it because, technically, it's not brand-new merchandise. Maybe when they took it out of the packaging it got a scratch. Because of that, you may get 25 to 30 per cent taken off."

From there Cunningham recommends her "fabulous in the front, budget in the back" technique. She suggests using Ikea kitchen cabinet boxes but investing in custom kitchen cabinet doors. Or use a box door cabinet line from Ikea and dress it up with more expensive hardware from Restoration Hardware. "At the end of the day, the details are what makes an entire space feel high end."

The same is true in bathrooms. Instead of replacing the entire sink or toilet, look at improving the fixtures. "Places like Lowe's or Home Depot have a section in the plumbing department that sells replacement fixtures. For instance, just the bathtub valve or toilet flushers — mine was oil-rubbed bronze. I think I spent $14 on it and everyone thinks it's a $3,000 toilet."

Aside from the details, materials are a great way to upgrade a look and save on cost. "My favourite buy right now is the butcher block at Ikea ... If you're going to put in a laminate or can't afford granite or stone, butcher block gives you a timeless, completely high-end look at a fraction of the cost."

And while you're there, Cunningham recommends checking out their new line of faucets.

"They've joined with Whirlpool for their current range. They have no markings and are very industrial looking. They're a quarter of what you'd pay for a Viking, and I think better looking."

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Good Riddance Day

Forget being in Times Square on New Year's Eve — if you can't wait to leave 2009 behind, New York City is also planning a Good Riddance Day event, where you can write down those bad memories and shred them. The date will be posted at timessquarenyc.org. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Travel

Return to the rooftops

New Year's Eve fireworks will return to the rooftops of Las Vegas Strip hotels to ring in 2010 after ground-level displays disappointed revellers last year. "We're moving the fireworks show back to where it should be," said Pat Christenson, president of the event promoter, Las Vegas Events. The $550,000 US fireworks show will be fired from atop seven tall hotels, and the street will again be closed to form a pedestrian mall for the event. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

What's new in Waikiki

This Honolulu hotspot has sprouted all kinds of fresh shops, eateries and hotels

DAWNA L. ROBERTSON
for Metro Canada

If you haven't visited Waikiki in awhile, you'll be in for a pleasant surprise when you do.

This iconic Hawaii destination, which is a Honolulu neighbourhood, has gone through a major renaissance over the past few years, enhancing everything from accommodations to shopping and dining.

Making perhaps the greatest retail splash, the Waikiki Beach Walk has stepped onto the stage with a collection of eateries, shops and upgraded Outrigger Hotels & Resorts properties. There's even a new Embassy Suites Waikiki, with the upscale Trump Waikiki Hotel opening in mid-November.

Also adding to the revived retail mix is the Royal Hawaiian Center, revamping a former concrete fortress into a pleasant shopping and dining venue that's home to the Royal Grove — Waikiki's largest garden area that's tucked on the grounds of the center fronting the Royal Hawaiian Hotel.

One of those newbies generating the biggest buzz amid this mix of fresh faces is the $21 million US renovation of the OHANA Waikiki Beachcomber and the grand opening of its colourful Jimmy Buffett's at the Beachcomber, a new dining, entertainment and retail venue that's Hawaii's first Jimmy Buffett eatery.

This new gathering place for Parrotheads and those who simply seek good food, libations and fun occupies a prominent location on Kalakaua Avenue above Macy's in the OHANA Waikiki Beachcomber's lobby level.

It's a lively celebration of Jimmy's adventurous lifestyle and the natural wonders of Hawaii where you can dine or enjoy your favorite beverage on an open-air lanai or within one of the extraordinary island atmospheres created throughout the facility.

ROBERT CRAVENS

A view of Waikiki Beach with Diamond Head crater in the background.

Specialities include Calypso Mahi Mahi, Big Island Vegetable Stir Fry, Bayou Shrimp Pasta, Coconut Shrimp, Jerk Salmon and assorted savoury sandwiches. And naturally, since it's in paradise, Jimmy offers his signature cheeseburger — a food icon in itself.

As for decor, the restaurant is visit worthy even if you're between meals.

Unique technology allows for beautiful sunsets, crashing waves and majestic mountains to blend seamlessly with the Hot Spot Bar (dramatically honouring the molten lava formation of the islands); the Ocean Waves Dining Booths (inspired by the towering waves found on Oahu's North Shore); and the music of Jimmy Buffett and the Islands.

Buffett has commented that from the first time he caught a wave at Canoes on Waikiki, he began to figure out how he could become more deeply linked with this destination.

"I have had a long love affair with Hawaii and her people," he said.

"Mark Twain called these 'the loveliest fleet of islands anchored in any ocean' and I couldn't agree more. I have written many stories and songs inspired by my time in Hawaii and can't wait to see what the future holds in the land that is so far but yet so near."

The icing on the Buffett cake is the Honolulu Surfing Museum, an interactive immersion into surfing culture. The museum's collection of unique artifacts, displays and experiences celebrates Hawaiian heritage and the ever-evolving sport of surfing.

Good to know

- Hawaii Visitors & Convention Bureau: gohawaii.com
- Waikiki Beach Walk: waikikibeachwalk.com
- Outrigger Hotels & Resorts: outrigger.com
- Embassy Suites Waikiki: embassysuiteswaikiki.com
- Trump Waikiki Hotel: trumpwaikikihotel.com
- Royal Hawaiian Center: royalhawaiiancenter.com
- Royal Hawaiian Hotel: royal-hawaiian.com
- OHANA Waikiki Beachcomber: ohanawaikikibeachcomber.com
- Jimmy Buffett's at the Beachcomber: jimmybuffetts atthebeachcomber.com

ROBERT CRAVENS

The Royal Hawaiian Hotel, right, and the Sheraton Hotel at Waikiki Beach.

KATERYNA GOVORUSHCHENKO

A street-level view of Waikiki Beach in Honolulu.

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Melrose Place returns to its roots

Ready for some more old-school Melrose Place fireworks? A rep for the CW says Heather Locklear (Amanda) Daphne Zuniga (Jo), Josie Bissett (Jane) and Thomas Calabro (Michael) will reunite in the fabled courtyard of the apartment complex in an episode set to air early next year. USMAGAZINE.COM

Entertainment

GQ's man

The GQ men of the year honorees are Tom Brady, Bradley Cooper, Zach Galifianakis, Ed Helms, Chris Pine, Clint Eastwood and President Barack Obama. POPEATER.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Glee star unlikely choice to be lead

BRIAN COULTON
Metro World News

TV SHOW Cory Monteith never considered himself a triple threat.

He could sing, but never sang before, he played drums in a band that never broke and his acting credits included "Scooter Guy" and "Teenage Boy" as recently as 2007.

"It's a little surreal, playing this all-American jock when I'm Canadian, never played sports, and am 27-years-old playing high school."
Cory Monteith

So when the Calgary, Alta.-born, Victoria-raised actor got the call to play a principal role in breakout TV musical comedy Glee, it's unsurprising he felt just a little overwhelmed.

"I didn't really understand what this thing was going to be, how it would change my day-to-day life," he said days following an appearance at the Gemini Awards in his hometown. "It occurred to me, when I had five people on speakerphone call me at once and say, 'You've got it!' … just the tone in their voices explained a lot to me about the size and scope of this project."

Thankfully for him, Monteith soon understood the Glee creators weren't looking for the consummate performer, but someone newer to singing and dancing. Monteith wasn't only inexperienced outside drama. Having dropped out of high school in grade 9, he didn't exactly appear to fit the bill of his high school quarterback-turned-glee club chanteur character, Finn Hudson, either.

"It's a little surreal, playing this all-American jock when I'm Canadian, never played sports, and am 27-years-old playing high school," he said.

A new episode of Glee airs on Global tonight

The high school theme hasn't waned over the years, and the addition of performance to it commonly induces reference to wildly popular franchise High School Musical, a comparison Monteith has tired of.

"If High School Musical hadn't come first, Glee would have done better numbers," he said with a laugh.

"I think there wouldn't have been all those people going, 'Oh, well they're just trying to rip off High School Musical'."

Giving it the Dahl touch

Fantastic Mr. Fox director tried to keep film close to author's style

Movie **feature**

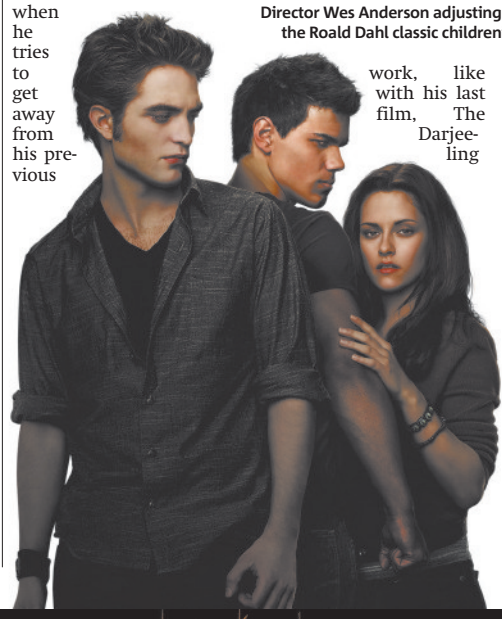
NED EHRBAR
for Metro Canada

Over the course of his career, Wes Anderson has established a very specific style of filmmaking — whether he wanted to or not.

"Something that I'm not quite able to regulate comes through, I suppose," he admits. "Maybe it's the color palette, the shooting style, the use of music. It ends up seeming that way, maybe because I'm making the decisions, but it's not because I wanted it to feel like another thing I did."

Director Wes Anderson adjusting his characters on the set of Fantastic Mr. Fox, an adaptation of the Roald Dahl classic children's book.

And even when he tries to get away from his previous work, like with his last film, The Darjeeling Limited, he can't escape the Wes Anderson-ness of his work.



"A lot of people said, 'I can see this is a lot like your other movies,'" he remembers. "And I felt like, but we've gone to India. We're on a train. It's totally different."

True to form, Anderson's latest, a stop-motion animation adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic The Fantastic Mr. Fox, has that certain something that makes it indisputably a Wes Anderson movie, as much as he tried to avoid it.

"My goal was to try to make it as Dahl as possible," the director says.

But his touch is unmistakable — and with good reason, as Anderson felt a deep, personal connection to the story.

"This was the first book that I legally owned in our household that was my property," he says. "I still have it, and it still has a little plate in it with my name from the school book fair."

And in a more thematic sense, the titular Mr. Fox (voiced by George Clooney) fits in well with Anderson's stable of rascal father figures, from Gene Hackman in The Royal Tenenbaums to Bill Murray in The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou.

"I'm drawn to characters like that," Anderson says. "As a kid, I really liked the character of Mr. Fox because it wasn't just that he rescued his family, but that he got them into trouble in the first place. Something about that, I feel like I responded to."

Adapting the story for the screen was the easy part. What Anderson found difficult was adapting his own filmmaking style to the world of animation. "I wanted to shoot it the same way I would a live action movie, which, in the end becomes … extremely challenging."

Opening date

- The Fantastic Mr. Fox opens in movie theatres on Wednesday, Nov. 25.

Entertainment in brief

LITERARY AWARDS Kate Pullinger has won the Governor General's Literary Award for fiction for her The Mistress of Nothing. Acclaimed Toronto fiction writer M.G. Vassanji nabbed the Governor General's Award for non-fiction for A Place Within: Rediscovering India.

PEREZ HILTON The lawyer for Black Eyed Peas manager Liborio (Polo) Molina says he hopes his case with celebrity blogger Perez Hilton will be dealt with in court today. Molina faces an assault charge for allegedly striking Hilton outside a Toronto nightclub on June 22.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

the twilight saga
new moon
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E! ENTERTAINMENT

Twilight advanced ticket sales breaking records
Cineplex Entertainment and E1 Entertainment Canada are reporting advance ticket sales for The Twilight Saga: New Moon have reached $1.5 million dollars, breaking previous records. The film opens in theatres on Friday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Twilight duo laugh off tabloids

Stars discuss the adjustment to spotlight and their relationship

Movie feature

NED EHRBAR
for Metro Canada

Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart, stars of the Twilight series, how they laugh at the tabloid magazines that write about them.

With their characters entangled in such a deep, passionate love affair, it's only natural that fans would project the same emotions onto Twilight stars Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson, and no one understands that better than the actors themselves.

"I completely understand why they want us to be together and all of that," says Stewart, referencing the endless tabloid stories about their supposed real-life romance. "I just have to not think about it."

For Pattinson, it's much easier to keep from blurring the lines between work and real life. "You've always got to remember that you're being paid," he says.

As successful as the book series was, the intense amount of fame and public scrutiny that came after the release of Twilight — and hasn't let up since — caught Stewart and Pattinson more than a little off-guard.

But even though he's been in the tabloids on a weekly basis, Pattinson hasn't really registered the change in his public profile.

"I've been on set since Jan. 14. I've only had, like, three days off," he says. "I still don't know how my life as really changed. I still feel pretty much exactly the same."

But Pattinson admits some of the more outrageous coverage of him has made its way onto his radar. "Some magazine had on the cover that I was pregnant," he remembers with a laugh. "But without a hint of irony or anything. I didn't really know what to make of that. I don't even know if that qualifies as libelous because they can say, 'Well it's obviously fiction.'"

For Stewart, ignoring such stories was never a problem.

"The whole tabloid stuff is so obviously false to me, even before I became a part of it," she says. "It's like a ridiculous show, a soap opera. It doesn't bother me. I don't take it personally."

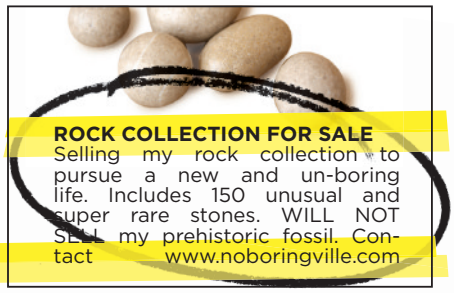
Or course, along with the more outrageous stories come more outrageous reactions from their diehard fans — some of whom don't fit neatly into the expected age brackets, Pattinson has found. "There's a woman who came up to me the other day, who must've been in her 90s," he says. "It's very unusual. And the older fans say exactly the same things as 12-year-old girls."

For Stewart and Pattinson, the biggest changes in dynamic for New Moon was the development of Jacob, played by Taylor Lautner, who grows into quite the eye-catching corner of the series' central love triangle. And while Lautner underwent plenty of scrutiny himself as he proved he could bulk up for the role, his co-stars were never worried. "I always knew Taylor could do that," Stewart insists. "Even seeing him walk around on set was a different experience."

"So when he came back, I had the same reaction as everyone else, like, 'Jesus. Now I have to go to the gym,'" Pattinson said.

On the web

- Watch a dramatic New Moon clip in which Edward swoops in to rescue Bella from the Volturi at metronews.ca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primetime 11/18/09	251	308	3 CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (N) (CC)		The Tudors (N) (CC) (DVS)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	254	-	9 OMNI	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		The Simpsons
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	Next Top Model		Criminal Minds "Outfoxed" (N)		CSI: NY "Cuckoo's Nest" (N)		CTV News
	-	-	10 JOY	Frasier (CC)	The Insider	The Practice "Legacy" (CC)		Third Watch (CC)		Perspectives	Ek Noor	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Bones (N) (PA) (CC)		Glee "Ballad" (N) (CC)		Melrose Place "Cahuenga"		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N) (CC)	So You Think You Can Dance		Next Top Model		Ghost Whisperer (CC)		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	The Office	The Office	Mercy (N) (CC)		Family	Cougar Town	The Jay Leno Show (N) (CC)		The CityNews
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Next Top Model		Next Top Model		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds "Outfoxed" (N)		CSI: NY "Cuckoo's Nest" (N)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Mercy (N) (CC)		Law & Order: SVU		The Jay Leno Show (N) (CC)		KING 5 News
	602	568	19 W	Old Christine	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Yourself Sexy	Chef Worthy	Fearl-Kitchen	Supersize
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Family	The Middle	Family	Cougar Town	In the Spotlight With		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	More Dogs Than Bones ★ (2000, Comedy) Joe Mantegna.				Seinfeld	King	Cheers (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	OpenRoad	Steves Europe	Secrets of Shangri-La (CC)		Lost Cave Temples		Mustang	Wind	Seattle-Fair
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance		Glee "Ballad" (N) (CC)		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	Freshwater Seas		Being Served	Keeping Up	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Lake Erie: Ohio's Great Lake	
	296	654	34 SBK	The Office	Name Is Earl	Frasier (CC)	'70s Show	South Park	Half & Half	Net Millions	Hatchett	Clear Acne
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Next Top Model		Next Top Model		KTLA Prime News (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Maury (CC)	
	297	652	37 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According-Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
	199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show-Letterman		Late Late Show		Inside Edition	Seinfeld
news	502	390	26 NW	Planet Earth "Great Plains"		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Planet Earth "Great Plains"		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Hockey	MMA Conn	The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	NHL Hockey: Avalanche at Oilers			SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		Boxing: Haye vs. Valuev		Timbersports	SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters International		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman (CC)		Ghost Hunters International		Bounty Hunter
	410	403	54 SCR	NBA Basketball: Raptors at Jazz			Score Now	Score Now		Score Now		Final Score
	417	406	55 SC	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Thunder	Pinks Out	Pass Time	Pass Time	Wrecked
	416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol		MLS Weekly	Off the Pitch	Gol TV News	Foot Brazil	Paid Program	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Drake & Josh	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Chicken
	557	541	51 FAM	Sonny Chance	Zack & Cody	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	553	546	53 TRE	Babar (CC)	Big & Small	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Big Comfy
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Arctic Mission: Voyage		Mao: A Chinese Tale (CC)		Live! From the National Arts Centre (CC)				Back Breaking
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Due South "Victoria's Secret"		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Imp.
	570	580	24 MM	Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	MuchMusic Video Awards		One Tree Hill (CC)		My Date	Video on Trial	Spotlight
	600	564	29 H&G	House	House	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Unsellable	Intervention	Property	Unsellable	House
	615	520	31 A&E	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Manhunters	Manhunters	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter
	628	584	32 SPKE	The Ultimate Fighter (N)		UFC 106 Cnt	The Ultimate Fighter		Talking Monkeys in Space		Real Vice	Trek: Voyager
	521	560	34 TLC	Flowers Uncut	Flowers Uncut	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Dress	Dress	Flowers Uncut	Flowers Uncut	Little Couple
	616	522	40 SHO	The Outer Limits (CC)		The Guard (CC)		Cra$h & Burn (CC)		Bones (CC)		NCIS (CC)
	620	523	40 BVO	White Collar "Book of Hours"		Law & Order (CC)		Without a Trace "Two of Us"		White Collar "Book of Hours"		Entourage
	601	562	41 SLC	In Laws	In Laws	ET Canada	What	The Biggest Loser (CC)		How to Find a Husband (CC)		Trading Sp
	520	505	42 DIS	Mayday (N) (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		Mayday (CC)		Pitchmen		Mega Builders
	522	506	44 HIS	History's Secrets (CC)		Life After People (CC)		Ice Road Truckers (CC)		Ice Pilots NWT "Buffalo Air"		Outlaw Bikers
	627	528	45 SPC	Supernatural (N) (CC)		InnerSpace	Stargate SG-1	"Holiday"	Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)	
	294	650	47 TBS	Meet-Browns	Meet-Browns	Lopez Tonight (N)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Lopez Tonight
	619	525	48 TROP	King	King	The Outer Limits (CC)		ET Canada	What	Family Guy	King	King
	603	561	52 FN	Chopped (N) (CC)		Chef School	Chef School	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Chopped (CC)		Diner, Drive-In
	-	-	53 AMC	Uncommon	End of Days ★ (1999, Horror) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Gabriel Byrne. (CC)					(:15) Batman Returns ★★ (1992, Action)		
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Michael	RENO 911! (N)	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:30) Igor ★★ (2008) (CC)		(7:55) Blindness ★★ (2008, Suspense) Julianne Moore. (CC)				Lock 'n Load	Eden Lake (2008) Finn Atkins.	
	581	566	101 MTV	The City (N)	After	MTV Live	Sex News	The Hills	The Hills	The City	After	MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Unscripted "Terry Fator" (N)		Poltergeist: The Legacy		The Muppets Take Manhattan ★★★ (1984) James Coco.				Paid Program
	-	-	105 MUL	Sewing Maid	Boys Over Flo	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical	Temas	Patrol World

critics'corner

Glee
Will (Matthew Morrison) has the glee club members split up into pairs to sing their favorite ballads, but he winds up in a sticky situation when he is forced to step in for a sick student. Finn (Cory Monteith) has dinner with Quinn's parents (guest stars Gregg Henry and Charlotte Ross). Lea Michele, Chris Colfer and Jane Lynch also star in the new episode "Ballad." 6 PM on STR

CSI: NY
When Mac (Gary Sinise) and the CSIs find a compass near a body that fell from the 59th Street Bridge, they realize it is the third victim of the Compass Killer. Wow, and they didn't even need to call in Columbo to help with that one. Impressive. Skeet Ulrich reprises his role as serial killer Hollis Eckhart in the new episode "Cuckoo's Nest"; Melina Kanakaredes and Carmine Giovinazzo also star. 10 PM on CBS CTV

Victoria Secret model becomes first-time mom

Victoria's newest secret: Model Adriana Lima and her NBA star husband have welcomed a baby girl to their family. Lima and Marko Jaric became first-time parents on Sunday in New York City. **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

No full monty for baby daddy

NOT REALLY DISAPPOINTING While his almost-mother-in-law Sarah Palin hits the publicity trail this week for her autobiography Going Rogue, Levi Johnston will not be getting the exposure that originally had been promised, people.com reports.

Contrary to earlier teases that the 19-year-old would leave nothing to the imagination in his Playgirl photo shoot, "He did not give 'full frontal' as his manager Tank (Jones) reported he would," Daniel Nardicio, a spokesman for Playgirl, tells New York's Daily News.

The pictorial spread was shot last week.

NBC News reports that publication, originally set for December, has been pushed up to this coming Saturday, Nov. 21.

Still, said Nardicio, "We're thrilled with the photos we got, and are confident people will love them, but although there may be glimpses, we did not get full on frontal nudity."

For the record, Palin told Oprah Winfrey Monday that she considers Playgirl to be "porn."

She added, "It's kind of heartbreaking to see the road he is on right now."

As for the former Alaska's governor reach-out to Johnston with an invitation to Thanksgiving dinner at her house, the teen reportedly told Playgirl that this was "a nice gesture, but she didn't mean it."

The nude model also said having dinner with the Palins would be "awkward."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Stars going gaga over new video phone

GET DOWN ON IT Trust us: Beyoncé and Lady Gaga will make you wish you owned a video phone, people.com reports. The longtime pop-tune heavyweight and the latest hot thing on a microphone have joined musical forces for the frenetically-paced Video Phone, which premiered on MTV and VH1 at midnight yesterday.

The gun-wielding pair take on paps, voyeurs and camera-headed guys in suits (no, really) as they make apparent nods to Betty Page and the wartime flag of Japan.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Richie staying mum

WHAT'S THAT YOU DIDN'T SAY? Nicole Richie may have inadvertently let out more than she wanted about her relationship with Joel Madden during a hearing in Los Angeles Monday.

While testifying against paparazzi Richie claims "stalk and harass" her, Richie's lawyer, Mark Geragos, referred to Madden as Richie's "husband" — and she didn't correct him, according to People magazine.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity tweets

Spencer Pratt goes after Al Roker after their interview is cancelled, Jonathan Ross has trouble with technology and Neil Patrick Harris finally joins Twitter.

• @spencerpratt @alroker is it true you have been married 6 times? I'm sure all your wives left you when they realized you were abusive to women! Sicko!

• @wossy Wife bought me waterproof ipod to swim with. Looks exactly like my old, non-waterproof ipod shuffle. Guess which one i just took swimming?

• @ActuallyNPH My first tweet, peeps. I apologize in advance for my slow learning curve. Nice to (sort of) meet you. It's amazing how quickly 140 charac

METRO WORLD NEWS

Carter can't escape IRS

THAT MAKES MORE SENSE There's a reason pop singer Aaron Carter was so crushed when he was eliminated from Dancing with the Stars last week, and according to TMZ it wasn't disappointment over losing. The website reports that documents have been filed in Los Angeles this week alleging that Carter owes the IRS more than $1 million US in back taxes.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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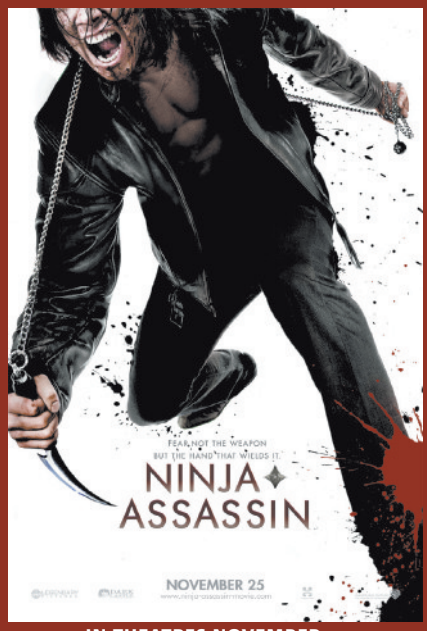
A DOUBLE PASS TO AN ADVANCE SCREENING OF



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Thursday Rain 90% 9° / 5°
Friday Rain 80% 8°/ 3°
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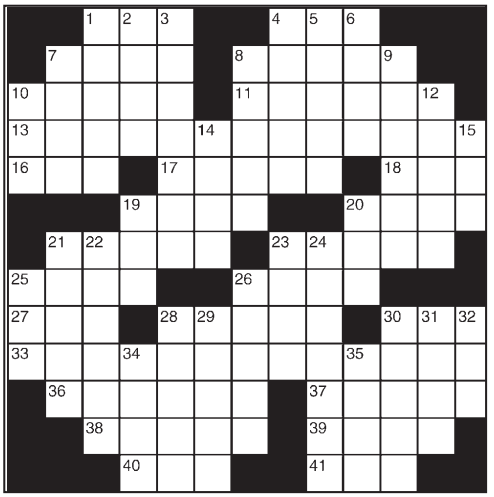
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Space in between
4 Recipe measure
7 Former larva
8 Esteem
10 Artist's support
11 Greyhound alternative
13 Miscellany
16 Street address?
17 Saint-Saëns' "— Macabre"
18 "— Got a Secret"
19 Gossip
20 Platoon, for example
21 Set (down) suddenly
23 Made on a loom
25 Hodgepodge
26 Picks up the check
27 Bleachers occupant
28 Taletellers
30 — constrictor
33 Irregular impulsive moves
36 Sawbuck
37 Gear up
38 Money
39 Baseball scores
40 Obtain
41 Perched

DOWN

1 Enthusiastic enjoyment
2 "Planet of the —"
3 One who champions a cause
4 Freebies
5 Loosen
6 Hole in the head?
7 Twosome
8 Lacked
9 Wisconsin city
10 Recede
12 Kline or Spacey
14 Dealer's foe (Var.)
15 Collection
19 Singing partners
20 Skin-damaging rays, for short
21 Braid
22 Doorframe top
23 "Star —"
24 Seafood appetizers
25 Vacationing
26 Chaplain
28 Jousting need
29 Not moving
30 Principal force
31 Elevator name
32 Cleo's slayer
34 Like a bug in a rug
35 Blue hue

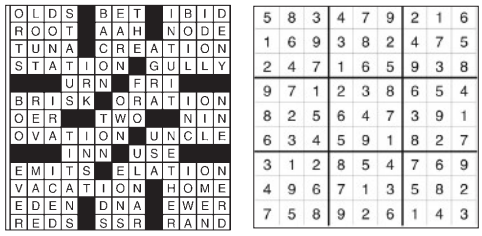
Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	9		7		1	5		
	7			8	6			
		1					3	
		5			2			1
6								9
4			3			8		
	8					7		
			5	2			1	
		9	4		7		8	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



5	8	3	4	7	9	2	1	6
1	6	9	3	8	2	4	7	5
2	4	7	1	6	5	9	3	8
9	7	1	2	3	8	6	5	4
8	2	5	6	4	7	3	9	1
6	3	4	5	9	1	8	2	7
3	1	2	8	5	4	7	6	9
4	9	6	7	1	3	5	8	2
7	5	8	9	2	6	1	4	3

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Smoked Trout and Watercress Open Sandwich

INGREDIENTS:
8 small-sized eggs
1 3/4 oz (50 g) watercress
4 tbsp (60 mL) mayonnaise
1 tbsp (15 mL) lemon juice
8 thick slices rye bread
3 skinless smoked trout fillets, about 2 2/3 oz (75 g) each, flaked

METHOD:
1. Simmer eggs in boiling water 1 1/2–2 minutes, depending on whether you prefer them slightly soft or medium boiled. Plunge into cold water and leave to cool.
2. While eggs are cooking, set aside a few watercress sprigs for garnishing, then roughly chop rest, discarding any very thick stems. Mix chopped watercress, mayonnaise and lemon juice together.
3. Spread watercress mixture evenly over one side of each slice of rye bread, then top with flakes of smoked trout. Carefully peel shells off eggs, then cut each in half and arrange two egg halves on top of each open sandwich. Season with ground black pepper and garnish with reserved sprigs of watercress.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You don't have to be dishonest but you do have to keep information that might be useful to those who envy your success.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You are about to make a hugely important decision, one that could transform your life. No wonder you look worried. Change is good for you.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
There seems to be some tension in the air at the moment and it is unlikely to pass until the Sun changes signs on the 22nd.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You may like to think you are a logical person but you do in fact rely on the emotional side of your nature a lot. Don't think – feel.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You may think you can do as you please and get away with it, and maybe you can, in the short-term, but over time everything evens itself out.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The choices you make over the next few days will have a huge impact on the direction your life takes over the next few months, so make them wisely.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Take the time and make the effort to set the record straight and point out to your critics where your remarks have been misquoted.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
What happens over the next two or three days will bring to light all manner of hidden things, but you've got nothing to hide – well, nothing too bad.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Don't be surprised if you find yourself hesitating for no apparent reason today. But your sixth sense tells you it might be wise to hang back. For now.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
The timing of meetings and social activities may have to be changed at the last moment today, but the changes will work in your favor.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
What you gain when the Sun changes signs on the 22nd will make up for anything you may have lost in recent weeks, so keep your spirits up.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A relationship can and must be revitalized but it won't happen until you stop looking back at what happened in the past.

This day in history

326: The old St. Peter's Basilica is consecrated.
1493: Christopher Columbus first sights what is now Puerto Rico.
1865: Mark Twain's story The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County is published in the New York Saturday Press.
1928: Release of the animated short Steamboat Willie, the first fully synchronized sound cartoon, directed by Walt Disney and Ub Iwerks.
1963: The first push-button telephone goes into service.
1988: War on Drugs: U.S. President Ronald Reagan signs a bill into law allowing the death penalty for murder in regards to drug traffickers.

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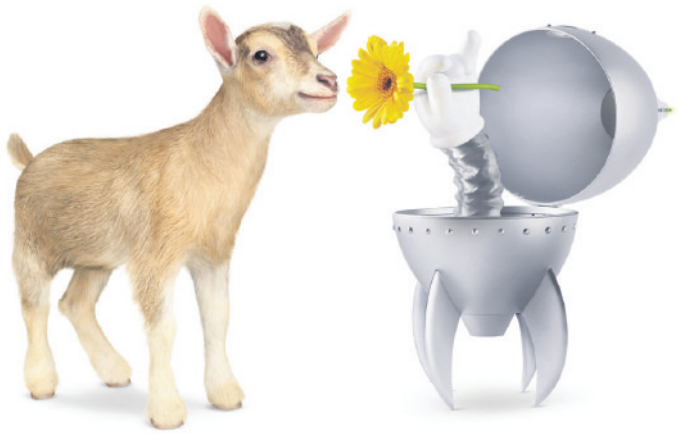

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3490 Kingsway
2338 Cambie St.

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Crystal Square
Lougheed Mall
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1801 Lonsdale Ave.
1392 Main St.

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Ironwood Mall
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